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Report from Ponce—Quarantine transactions—Vital statistics.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Torres reports, December 19, through the chief quarantine officer, as follows:

During the week ended December 19, 1903, 4 vessels were inspected and 5 bills of health were issued. Three vessels inspected were passed and 1 was held under guard.

The vessel in quarantine was the German steamship *Hispania*, arrived from Puerto Cabello, La Guayra, and Carupano. No passengers; no cargo for Ponce. Took cargo in quarantine under guard.

Nothing of interest has occurred in the sanitary condition of this city and district.

Vital statistics of the city of Ponce during the month of November, 1903.

Diseases of:	Diseases of—Continued.		
Digestive system	28	Diphtheria	2
Nervous system	4	Malarial fever, pernicious	4
Circulatory system	4	Cirrhosis of liver	1
Respiratory system	9	Cancer	2
Malarial fever	33	Congenital malformation and convulsions.....	6
Carbuncle	1	Total	132
Tuberculosis	9		==
Hydrocephalus	1	November, 1903:	
Anæmia, inanition	15	Deaths	132
Nephritis	3	Births	126
Old age	3	November, 1902:	
Cystitis, chronic	1	Deaths	82
Puerperal fever	3	Births	125
Metriasis	2		
Accidents			

TURKEY.*Regulations adopted with regard to pilgrims from the Hedjaz.***OTTOMAN EMPIRE.**

[Translated in this Bureau from the Bulletin Quarantenaire, Alexandria, December 3 and 10, 1903.]

Disinfection of pilgrims and passengers and of their effects.—Pilgrims and passengers shall take a spray bath or sea bath immediately on disembarking at Camaran while their clothing and soiled linen are undergoing stove disinfection.

As soon as they are disposed in the camps they shall be required to expose to air and sun for the period of one entire day all the articles composing their baggage. This shall be done by the pilgrims or passengers themselves. The camp physician shall ascertain by personal inspection that this has been done, and he shall give the pilgrims and passengers to understand that this operation is indispensable to assure them free pratique and the quarantine term.

For the details of the process of disinfection, reference shall be made to the publication entitled "General Instructions in Disinfection Applicable at the Quarantine Stations of the Ottoman Empire, Drawn up by the Superior Council of Health at its Session of June 27, 1899."

Measurement of pilgrim vessels.

The deck need not be measured, for as laid down in the regulations, article 18, it shall be reserved exclusively, day and night, for the use of the crew, and gratuitously for the use of the pilgrims and passengers between decks.

To measure the space between decks in order to determine the number of pilgrims who can be embarked under the regulations and to insure the space being at least 6 feet English, or 1 meter 92 centimeters in height, the following method is adopted:

From bow to stern and along the middle line measure the surface length, then subdivide this length into equal parts according to the following rule:

1. A vessel the length of which does not exceed 50 feet English into 4 equal parts.
2. A vessel, the length of which exceeds 50 feet English but is less than 120, into 6 equal parts.
3. A vessel, the length of which is more than 120 feet English but less than 180, into 8 equal parts.
4. A vessel, the length of which is more than 180, but less than 225 feet English into 10 equal parts.
5. A vessel, the length of which exceeds 225 feet English into 12 equal parts. The product of the length of each part multiplied by its width will give the surface of each part, and the addition of these products will give the surface available for the accommodation of the pilgrims.

From this surface shall be deducted the space occupied by the machinery and any other nonavailable space between decks.

The number of square meters remaining shall be divided by 16. The product will give the number of pilgrims to be accommodated between decks.

The saloons of the first and second class cabins are reserved exclusively for the use of the persons occupying the berths.

Read and approved at session of the Superior Council of Health, August 18, 1903.

Foreign and insular statistical reports of countries and cities—Yearly and monthly.

AFRICA—Sierra Leone.—Two weeks ended November 27, 1903. Estimated population, 40,000. Total number of deaths, 24. No contagious diseases reported.

ARGENTINA—Buenos Ayres.—Month of October, 1903. Estimated population, 884,619. Total number of deaths, 1,899, including diphtheria 8, enteric fever 8, measles 9, scarlet fever 3, smallpox 29, and 152 from tuberculosis.

AUSTRALIA—New South Wales—Newcastle.—Month of October, 1903. Estimated population, 49,280. Total number of deaths, 49, including enteric fever 1, scarlet fever 1, and 6 from tuberculosis.

Sydney.—Month of October, 1903. Estimated population, 508,510. Total number of deaths, 448, including diphtheria 2, scarlet fever 7, whooping cough 6, and 55 from tuberculosis.

Queensland—Brisbane.—Month of September, 1903. Census population, 119,428. Total number of deaths, 110, including diphtheria 1, enteric fever 1, measles 3, and 1 from plague.

AUSTRIA—Brünn.—Month of October, 1903. Estimated population, 95,342. Total number of deaths, 193, including diphtheria 2, whooping cough 2, and 38 from tuberculosis.

DUTCH GUIANA—Paramaribo.—Month of November, 1903. Estimated population, 32,263. Total number of deaths, 83. No contagious diseases reported.

FRANCE—St. Etienne.—Two weeks ended November 30, 1903. Estimated population, 146,671. Total number of deaths 102, including enteric fever 2, whooping cough 1, and 13 from tuberculosis.

GERMANY—Strasburg.—Month of October, 1903. Estimated population, 159,006. Total number of deaths not reported. Four deaths